

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Chen, et al.

Examiner: TBD

Application No: TBD

Art Unit: TBD

Filed: February 5, 2004

For: Sample Processing

Attorney Docket No. IQA-009.01

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97(b)(1)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form SB-8a is a listing of documents known to Applicants and/or their attorney in compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97. Copies of the listed U.S. patents are not submitted, pursuant to 1276 OG 55, *Information Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003*. A copy of Reference M is submitted herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted with the filing of this application; therefore, no fee is due.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that each was considered by making appropriate notations on the attached Form SB-8a.

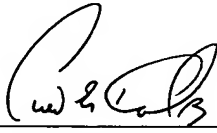
This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists. *See* 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g). Nor does it constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute “prior art.” *See* 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h). If the Examiner applies the cited documents as prior art against any claim in this application or related application and Applicants determine that the listed documents do not constitute “prior art” under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of said document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of claims over the listed documents, should the cited documents be applied against the claims of the present application or related applications.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account, No. 06-1448.

Respectfully submitted,
FOLEY HOAG LLP

Date: February 5, 2004

By: 

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	
				Filing Date	
				First Named Inventor	
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
				Attorney Docket Number	
Sheet	1	of	1	IQA-009.01	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
	A	4427580	1984-01-24	Kinsella et al.
	B	4483920	1984-11-20	Gillespie et al.
	C	5229297	1993-07-20	Schnipelsky et al.
	D	5234809	1993-08-10	Boom et al.
	E	5422271	1995-06-06	Chen et al.
	F	5705628	1998-01-06	Hawkins
	G	5811296	1998-09-22	Chemelli et al.
	H	5898071	1999-04-27	Hawkins
	I	6251660	2001-06-26	Muir et al.
	J	6300138	2001-10-09	Gleason et al.
	K	6426230	2002-07-30	Feistel
	L	6534262	2003-03-18	McKernan et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	M	WO 03/007677 A2	30-01-2003	Ririe, K.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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